

MUST SHOW GOODS FOR STOCK SALES

DR. G. E. CONDRA, DIRECTOR OF POTASH SURVEY, REPRESENTS INVESTIGATIONS FOR RAILWAY COMMISSION.

WEAKER BRINE DOUBTFUL

Mapping and Testing of Lakes in Potash District Nearly Completed—New Report Coming.

Dr. G. E. Condra, director of the potash survey for the state of Nebraska, and one of the best posted men on the potash business in the United States, was in the city on Wednesday of this week. In an interview with Dr. Condra he stated to a representative of The Alliance Herald that work on the various new potash plants is progressing more rapidly than had been expected on account of the great activities connected with the war and the difficulty experienced in obtaining building material.

Dr. Condra also stated that most of the potash lakes have been mapped and tested and that the state is rapidly gaining a knowledge of the potash resources. A new and more complete report with pictures, is to be issued a little later for general distribution.

The doctor did not hesitate to say that some difficulty is experienced with promoters of potash companies. The state railway commission passes upon the sale of stocks. This commission is trying to safeguard the interest of the public and investors.

The field investigations and evaluations of the lakes and their brines are usually referred to the conservation and soil survey for report. Dr. Condra is director of this survey and his survey determines the areas of the lakes, the depths of sands and the quality and value of brines and turns such information to the railway commission to serve in part as a basis for passing upon companies wishing to sell stock.

Some few promoters have attempted to sell propositions not favorably passed upon by the railway commission. The investor should make inquiry regarding the legal status of a company and its agents.

Dr. Condra stated that inasmuch as most of the lakes containing strong alkali brines have been leased, it has become necessary to investigate as a rule those with weaker brines and those not so well located with respect to transportation facilities and potash plants. It seems that some of the weaker brines may remain unused unless an equitable basis of leasing and development can be devised. It is plainly of interest to the state and our country to utilize all potash possible at this time as a war measure. The potash is very necessary for the production of foods in the southern and southeastern states. The weaker brines can not be pumped economically under present conditions. Notwithstanding this fact a few individuals are working a detriment in the potash industry by tying up lakes and keeping them from development by making leases on practically any terms they can secure from the owners. These persons are not able to turn their leases to practical operators, neither are they permitted to sell unbound stock in the state. It seems, therefore, that a more equitable method of leasing should be put into effect and that the owners of lakes should use more discretion in selecting the parties to whom they make leases.

A just lease would take into account the percentage of solids and the potash content of these solids. For example, said Dr. Condra, water running two per cent solids would be leased on a basis of two per cent royalty, or fifteen per cent on a fifteen per cent royalty. It might be stipulated in the lease that such royalty would hold for waters averaging twenty per cent K20 or on a basis of this potash content. The percentage of solids and of potash would be determined by the pipe line runs and by the returns from the potash plants as shown by chemical analyses.

Dr. Condra continued, "It is bad business for a company to undertake the construction and operation of a plant handling weak brine. An equitable adjusted royalty would promote the pumping of weak brines, making it possible to utilize lower percentages of solids than are now being run. This would further the use of the less desirable lakes and bring royalties to some who are sure to be passed up under existing leases. Several things are taken into consideration in passing upon the applications of companies to sell stock and to erect plants. The state is interested in its citizens both individually and collectively. It seeks to further the development of the potash industry but cannot promote the interests of a few individuals as against its many citizens.

"Persons taking leases should be required to erect a plant within a reasonable length of time and to pump certain quantities of water of

COMPLIMENT FROM BRO. COOPER

Col. G. M. Cooper, editor of The Rushville Recorder, in a recent issue, made the following editorial mention of the candidacy of the editor of The Herald:

"Representative Lloyd Thomas, editor of The Alliance Herald, has his announcement in the Recorder, and we feel free to speak of Mr. Thomas without any strings. Regardless of politics, Mr. Thomas has made a good representative, and is up-to-date in the prohibition cause, which is one of the most vital before the country today. His record in the legislature will bear investigation and all who know him will admit Thomas to be a clean and conscientious officer who deserves a second term."

SMASHING REDUCTIONS ON MERCHANDISE

Famous Making Extra Special Drive on Seasonable Merchandise, Announced in Herald This Week.

Beginning last Saturday morning the Famous inaugurated its semi-annual bargain feast. The big advertisement in this issue of The Herald will appear but once. A comparison of the prices offered with those appearing in the city papers for the same grade of merchandise makes the goods offered at this popular store the real bargains to buy.

Read the ad carefully. You will find many items which will save you dollars on the best class of merchandise.

"In preparation for the contemplated extension of draft ages, Gov. Keith Neville has issued a bulletin to all local boards requesting them to secure the services of voluntary registrars in every voting precinct in the state. Nebraska has achieved a very enviable record in the administration of the selective service law. Nebraskans have given freely of their time in the transaction of this work. In the 1917 registration, volunteer registrars were secured for the vast majority of counties. In Omaha 400 registrars volunteered their services. The registration in that city of 20,000 men cost the federal government only \$9.48. The record attained in some of the rural districts of Nebraska has been equally as good and in some cases, better. The 1918 registration was handled with no expense to the federal government.

It is Governor's Neville's desire that the titanic task of conducting the proposed new registration be accomplished with as little expense to the government as possible. He is, consequently, calling upon patriotic Nebraskans to communicate with the local board having jurisdiction over their territory, offering their services on registration day."

The city has purchased a 312 kilowatt dynamo for installation in the electric light plant on or before the first of next April. The present equipment consists of one 250 kilowatt dynamo, and one of 100 kilowatts. The small one now runs about six hours per day and the larger one 18 hours. The consumption of electricity is increasing so fast that it is expected both will be used together before the new one is installed.

the lakes held under the lease. Those not in a position to carry into effect the equitable terms of a lease should not be considered by lessors.

"The state survey is making a study of the various small potash plants, the purpose being to determine the most efficient methods of reducing brines of small lakes not favorably located with respect to pipe lines and the larger potash plants."

The doctor stated that some steps may be taken this fall by the state to organize a conference or short course on potash production. This conference, if organized, will be held at Alliance or Antioch. It will cover some of the technical and practical subjects of interest to potash producers. The course, though in the nature of extension work of the University of Nebraska, will include a number of lectures by the most competent persons connected with the various plants. Among the subjects under consideration are the chemical composition of Nebraska potash, the origin of potash, husbanding the potash resources of the state, lake testing, best methods of pumping, types of evaporators and ways of saving fuel, the potash market, uses of potash in agriculture, by-products of potash, the small plant and its problems, and potash as an important factor in winning the war.

During the last few days Dr. Condra made a tour of the potash district with a motion picture camera, taking moving pictures of the plants in operation, the lakes, and other things of interest in the potash industry. These pictures will be shown throughout the east and will give the potash industry of Nebraska some excellent advertising.

FORMER ALLIANCE BOY SEVERELY WOUNDED

Frank A. Gaddis Was Wounded in Battle on Western Front on July 29—Relatives Live Here.

Frank A. Gaddis, aged 20 years, who was born and raised in Alliance and is a stepson of Mrs. George Gaddis, and nephew of J. W. Gaddis, was severely wounded on the western front in France on July 29. A cablegram was received by his grandmother at Champaign, Illinois, on August 10, stating that he had been wounded, but so far no word has reached Alliance stating his condition, altho a cablegram was sent to him from Champaign.

Frank attended Culver military academy in Indiana and joined the army in 1917, going direct from the academy to the army. He would have graduated next year.

Frank went to France in October with the 149th field artillery as a member of the Rainbow division. He is well known in Alliance and has written relatives here many times of his life in the army. He was very impatient to "go over the top" and had written that he had met Ralph Johnson in France.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, of Alliance, has received a bequest of \$3,000 from the estate of William Hill. The money has been placed on time deposit as part of the fund for the erection of a new church in Alliance when the proper time comes for construction.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS RENDERED

Synopsis of Reports of City Treasurer and Electric Light and Water Department.

Following is given a synopsis of the reports of the city treasurer and the electric light and water departments of the city, as rendered to the city council at the regular meeting held on Tuesday evening.

The report of the city treasurer for the month from June 15 to July 15, showed in the general fund a balance on hand at the beginning of the month of \$1,642.65. Receipts were as follows:

Table with financial data: From county treasurer \$3,628.37, Miscellaneous license 5.00, Dog tax 35.00, Marshal fees 12.60, Interest 98.06, Miscellaneous 17.40. Total \$3,796.43. Disbursements in the general fund included warrants paid amounting to \$3,696.86 and interest on the same amounting to \$391.39, leaving a balance on hand of \$1,350.83.

The water fund showed a balance on hand of \$100 with no receipts during the month. Registered warrants unpaid in the water fund amounted to \$6,504.28. The light fund showed a balance on hand at the beginning of the month of \$9,097.99 with no receipts during the month. Disbursements amounted to \$476.66, leaving a balance on hand of \$8,621.33.

The report of the electric light and power department for the month ending July 15 showed gross earnings of \$2,963.42; discounts allowed of \$205.76; operating expenses of \$1,695.53; construction expense of \$140.46 and net earnings of \$921.67. Cash on hand on July 15 amounted to \$5,205.83 with uncollected balances of \$475.75. The number of power consumers is now 775, an increase of 60 over last year.

The report of the water department showed receipts for the month of \$1,453.00; claims paid during the month of \$1,887.15, and an uncollected balance on August 9 of \$1,148.20. The number of consumers for the quarter was 742 as compared with 725 for the same quarter a year ago.

The H. H. club very pleasantly entertained their friends last Friday evening at a dancing party given at the Parish house. The house was decorated in the colors of lavender and white. A very pleasant time was reported by all who attended. About twelve couples were present.

SATURDAY WILL BE ARMENIAN DONATIONS

All Patriotic Citizens Are Requested to Assist the Good Cause by Making Donations.

Two million Armenians, Syrians, Greeks and Jews have perished in the Bible lands in the last two years from massacre, deportation and starvation. There is still in this region, two and a half million homeless, destitute, starving people, experiencing daily a living death. These were formerly industrious, prosperous and in the main educated people—bankers, merchants, farmers, mechanics, laborers, doctors, teachers, in short people just like us.

The appeal that comes from them for help is the saddest cry that ever greeted human ears. Their only aid must come from the United States. Box Butte county's quota is \$2,500 and we are going to raise it. Donations will be received in the afternoon of Saturday, August 17. In the country the director of the school districts will take charge and those contributing will go to the school house. In Alliance the place for contributions will be at the court house.

The clerks at the school house and the court house will issue receipts for all donations, which will be turned over to Dean Shaw, county treasurer. The directors of each school district have been notified of the quota for the district.

Mail contributions should be sent to Dean Wm. Carson Shaw, treasurer, Alliance, Nebraska.

PATRIOTIC TRACK MEET ON TUESDAY

Boys and Girls from Six to Sixteen Will Contest for Thrift Stamp Prizes.

The patriotic track meet for boys and girls from six to sixteen years of age will be held at the city park in Alliance, starting at 7 o'clock in the evening, on Tuesday, August 20. The contests will be open to any boy or girl from six to sixteen years of age who will register with Miss Helen Hewitt at the city park before Saturday evening, August 17. The contestants will be divided into classes according to age.

There will be no entrance fee and nothing compulsory about practice for the athletic events. Assistance and coaching will be gladly given free by Miss Hewitt. The boys and girls have an excellent chance to win some thrift stamps free in addition to the amusement and training offered. The public is invited to attend the meet and see what "Young America can do in athletics."

The following thrift stamp prizes, donated by Alliance business firms, are offered:

- First in each event—Three 25c thrift stamps.
Second in each event—Two 25c thrift stamps.
Third in each event—One 25c thrift stamp.
The events for the meet are as follows:
Running high jump.
Running broad jump.
Chinning.
One hundred yard dash.
Sixty yard dash.
Basketball throw, for distance.
Basketball throw, for distance.
One contestant can register for any three of the above events.

At the request of the Masonic brethren of this vicinity, the Scottish Rite bodies of Omaha will make a special pilgrimage to Alliance, to put on the work of the degrees on Saturday, August 31. The work will be in charge of George W. Plattner, master of Mt. Moriah lodge No. 1, Degree of Perfection; Fred C. Rogers, master of Semper Fidelis chapter No. 1, Rocco Croix; Zoro D. Clark, master of St. Andrew's Preceptory No. 1, Knights Kadosh, and John R. Stine, master of Nebraska Consistory No. 1. Hon. Frank Cargill Patton, 33d, sovereign grand inspector general of Nebraska, will be with the party. All the degrees up to and including the 32d will be worked. Regular teams and paraphernalia from the Omaha cathedral will be provided, and the exemplification of the work will be without elision. On Sunday and Monday, September 1 and 2, the same teams will put on the work at Mitchell, where Masons from Scottsbluff and Mitchell are arranging for a class.

Uncle Sam has rightfully said "no slackers. We are 100 per cent Americans. Are you 100 per cent Christian? Come to the 9:55 welcome at the Bible school. C. E. prayer meeting at 6:30. Soul-inspiring services at each session. Preaching subjects, "The Positive Message of Jesus," and "The Positive Message of the Apostles." Midweek church meeting Wednesday evening. Come to the church with a message and a welcome.—Stephen J. Epler, minister.

Ivan Wong left Tuesday night for a visit with relatives and friends at Lincoln and DeWitt, Nebraska.

The ladies of the Alliance chapter of the Red Cross have been notified that thirty helmets are to be finished and turned in by the last of August. Those who have been knitting sweaters should finish them and then get the helmet yarn. No more sweater yarn is to be issued as the helmets are to be finished first. Mrs. Johnson is asking for several volunteer typists to come down and assist at the Red Cross rooms in getting the instruction sheets ready for the helmet knitters.

Dwight Bennett, who left Alliance only a short time ago with a draft contingent, has arrived in Camp Upton, New York state, and expects to go to France very soon. He arrived in Camp Upton on August 7.

J. Z. Jeffers will leave Alliance on Monday, August 19, for Osceola, Missouri, to bring back with him his sister, Mrs. Charlotte Ward, who is 85 years of age. She will make her home with him in Alliance in the future.

NO CHANGE MADE IN CITY TAX LEVY

Matter of Increased Taxes Thoroughly Threshed Out at Council Meeting Tuesday Night.

After an hour spent in the maze of figures submitted Tuesday night to the city council by Treasurer Abegg, showing the financial condition of the city—past, present and future, and after considerable discussion by citizens who were present, with practically none by the city dads, the council decided to make no change in the tax levy made for the coming year.

Among the citizens present to gain information regarding the new levy and its reason were: A. D. Rodgers, W. W. Norton, F. E. Holsten, F. W. Harris and H. P. Coursey. Councilmen present were Gavin, Hills, Moore, Henry, Davis, Highland and Davidson.

Chairman Highland, of the claims committee, requested that miscellaneous and promiscuous buying by city employes be prohibited. He stated that some bills had been received for goods of which the claims committee could find no trace, either of the goods or the purchaser.

Chairman Hills, of the fire and water committee, reported that he had hired Leonard Pilkington as driver of the fire truck and custodian of the city hall for \$125 per month and quarters, with two weeks off per year as vacation.

Considerable discussion was caused by the bill of Ed Brennan for the W. H. Voight Plumbing company for \$36.15, this being the amount deducted by Superintendent Campbell, of the light and water department. After considerable discussion by a number for both sides, a vote was taken on the bill. Those voting for paying it were Hills, Moore and Davidson. Those voting no were Gavin, Henry, Davis and Highland. Mr. Brennan announced that he expected to bring suit for the amount of the bill.

City Treasurer Frank Abegg was present with four large sheets filled with figures. This report, which was explained in detail by him, was a financial report of the affairs of the city from April 9, 1917, to May 15, 1918, and gave the reasons for the increase in levy for the coming year. The report will be published in The Herald complete for the information of our readers. It shows that on May 15 there was a balance in the general fund of \$2,051.78 with a total due from the county treasurer of \$5,408.95 on sewer, sidewalk, paving and curb assessments, with registered warrants unpaid of \$42,129.51. The park fund had a balance of \$1,154.61. The cemetery fund a balance of \$369.98 and unpaid warrants of \$1,085.60. The library fund had a balance of \$230.48 with unpaid warrants of \$664.19. The water fund had a balance of \$1,535.80 with registered warrants unpaid amounting to \$3,673.20. The light fund had a balance of \$18,411.59, practically all of which has been expended since May 15 for the new machinery and improvements at the city plant.

Treasurer Abegg showed that the levy of 4 1/2 mills for maintenance during the coming year would bring in approximately \$27,000, which would pay running expenses and probably leave some to apply on the outstanding indebtedness represented in the form of registered unpaid warrants. The city is bonded for approximately \$142,000. The new levy will raise city taxes twenty-two per cent. Inasmuch as each councilman is a taxpayer they feel that they are helping bear the burden in raising the taxes to pay the running expenses of the city and to up some of the city indebtedness which is drawing 7 per cent interest.

Hugh Beal and O'Bannon Brothers have brought to Box Butte county the first bean thresher. It arrived the first of the week and has been the center of attention of the large number of bean farmers in Box Butte county. Several thousand acres of beans have been raised in Box Butte county this year and it is expected that the thresher will save both time and money in threshing them out.

LARGER CROP OF POTATOES THAN YEAR AGO

BOX BUTTE, SHERIDAN AND ADJOINING COUNTIES WILL HAVE RECORD CROP THIS FALL.

GENERAL CONDITIONS GOOD

Chicago Market Developed Weakness at Close of Last Week, With Prices Fifty Cents Lower.

Box Butte, Sheridan and adjoining counties, comprising the potato belt of Nebraska, will harvest this fall a record breaking crop of potatoes. In spite of the fact that the average farmer's acreage for this district is not quite so large as last year, the big yield this year, combined with the large number of new farms in this territory, will produce probably the largest crop ever harvested in Nebraska.

It is predicted by authorities on the potato crop that the yield for Box Butte and Sheridan counties will be around the million bushel mark for each county. The average should be from 100 to 150 bushels per acre. With the farmers giving more attention to their crops, better planting and cultivating, the grades will be better than formerly.

THE COUNTRY MARKET.

The potato markets and crop conditions for last week, over the United States, as reported by The Packer, are as follows:

Prices Lower at Chicago. Chicago—A weaker tone developed in the potato market the last of week before last and continued during last week, with prices ranging around 50c lower than they were the week before.

The decline in the market was not due to heavy receipts, as the arrivals have, if anything, been under normal and operators attributed the trend of the market to the fact that a liberal volume of home grown stock was coming in through the territory which ordinarily draws supplies from or thru Chicago and that stock from this source was taking care of a good percentage of the demand. The inquiry has been largely a local proposition, altho there has been a moderate call for supplies from the larger markets in this territory.

With the decrease in receipts from (Continued on Page 3—This Section—Column One)

ASKS HELP FOR ARMENIAN PEOPLE

Governor Neville Issues Appeal for Aid for Starving Armenians and Syrians.

Keith Neville, governor of Nebraska, has issued the following appeal to the people of Nebraska in behalf of the starving Armenians and Syrians:

"I hereby call the attention of the people of Nebraska to the condition of the Armenians and Syrians. These people have for years in the past been subjects of persecutions of the most fiendish character. Tortured, outraged and despoiled of every right, civil and religious, war has given their enemies additional opportunities to practice their indignities until those who are still living are suffering indescribable horrors and are now on the verge of starvation. Over two millions, mostly women and children, are homeless and helpless. They are stretching out their empty hands to America for bread, and while I know the demands now being made upon us are legion, we must not forget these hungry and starving people. I would favor every righteous cause, but especially let us not withhold our gifts from those who are in sore need and who must perish unless they receive aid very soon.

I, therefore, appeal to the people of Nebraska to contribute to the Armenian and Syrian relief fund thru the Nebraska commission. Send your offerings at once to Dean Wm. Carson Shaw, treasurer, Alliance, Neb."

A. D. Rodgers, of Alliance, is being groomed by local Democrats for the Democratic nominee at the primaries next Tuesday as county commissioner from the district in which this city is situated. Inasmuch as no one filed for the nomination the writing in of his name on the ballots would nominate him for the fall election. It is also reported that another well known Democrat living in the country district of which the term expires this fall, will be nominated in the same manner.

Lester Olson of The Herald's mechanical department, returned this noon from a vacation of ten days spent in Denver and the mountains nearby. Lester returns looking better and still single—according to his statement.